

Remarks

Status of Claims

Claims 1-17 are currently pending. Claims 3-6 and 9-17 have been withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement.

Claim Amendments

Claims 3-6 and 9-17 have been cancelled in response to the restriction requirement. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims 3-6 and 9-17 in one or more divisional applications.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to recite that the Neogenin has an amino acid sequence of at least 70% identity to SEQ ID NO:5. Support for this amendment can be found in the Sequence Listing, Figure 5 and on page 16, the last line. Additionally, claims 1 and 2 have also been amended to recite that the RGM is RGM A or RGM B as suggested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added as a result of these claim amendments. Claims 7 and 8 have been cancelled.

Objections

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because Figure 1E is said not to clearly relate to the Brief Description of the Drawings ("Brief Description") contained on page 10. Specifically, the Examiner says that "Mouse RGM-A-AP and RGM-B-AP" in the Brief Description cannot be correlated to "cRGM-AP, mRGM-1AP and mGM5-AP" in Figure 1E. Moreover, the Examiner says that the 3 figures in Figure 1E should be separately labeled as "A, B C". Thus, the Examiner is requiring corrected drawing sheets. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Under separate cover, Applicants submit a revised Figure 1E. Specifically, in this revised Figure 1E, the 3 figures in Figure 1E have been separately labeled as suggested by the Examiner. A corresponding amendment has been made to the specification as well. Moreover, a marked up version of the drawing changes will also be submitted.

In view of the amendment to the description of Figure 1E and the changes to this drawing, Applicants submit that this objection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Specification

The specification is objected to because Figure 1E does not describe all 3 slides and does not define the RGM nomenclatures as presented in the figure. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants have amended the Brief Description to describe all 3 slides and to define the RGM nomenclatures presented in the figure. In view of this amendment, this rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Examiner says that the phrase “a neogenin” is indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner argues that in the absence of a sequence identifier for neogenin that the phrase “a neogenin” can encompass many sequences. Applicants respectfully traverse.

While not agreeing with the rejection, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 to recite that the Neogenin has an amino acid sequence of at least 70% identity to SEQ ID NO:5. In view of this amendment to claims 1 and 2, claims 7 and 8 have been cancelled. In view of these amendments to claims 1 and 2 and the cancellation of claims 7 and 8, the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are rejected as not being enabled by the specification for the reasons of record. Specifically, the Examiner says that the specification and relevant art establishes that only RGM A and RGM B bind to Neogenin and that neither the specification nor the relevant literature provide any information on the binding of RGM C to Neogenin. Applicants respectfully traverse.

While not agreeing with the rejection, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 to recite that the RGM is RGM A or RGM B. As mentioned previously herein, claims 7 and 8 have been deleted. In view of the amendments to claims 1 and 2 and the cancellation of claims 7 and 8, this rejection is now considered to be moot and should be withdrawn.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or would like to discuss any matters in connection with the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at

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